

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

A. Summary of the Amendment

Reexamination and reconsideration are courteously requested in view of the present amendment, by which claims 1, 3, 6, 19 to 24, 26, and 29 are amended. Further, claims 4, 17 to 18, and 32 to 33 are canceled. Thus, claims 1 to 3, 5 to 16, and 19 to 31 remain pending for the Examiner's consideration, with claims 1, 3, 26, and 29 being independent claims.

B. Allowable Subject Matter

The examiner has acknowledged that claims 7 to 8, 18, and 32 to 33 are directed to allowable subject matter. None of these claims is rejected in the Office Action, and the Office Action Summary indicates that the claims are either allowed or objected to (it is assumed that the objections stand in view of the otherwise allowable claims being dependent on a rejected independent claim). The Office Action Summary indicates that claims 19 to 24 are not rejected, and no rejections for claims 19 to 24 are recited in the Office Action, and it is therefore assumed that these claims also include allowable subject matter. Applicants thank the Examiner for a thorough examination of these claims.

C. Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, Second Paragraph

Claims 4, 6, and 32 are rejected as being indefinite for including trademark terminology. These rejections are moot in view of the cancellation of these claims. However, it is respectfully pointed out that certain meanings are provided to at least some of the trademark terminology by the tables on pages 10 and 11 of the present specification, which list nominal compositions for some first and second generation superalloys. Furthermore, the following table sets forth nominal compositions for the other superalloys, and such compositions could be readily ascertained by a person of ordinary skill in the art.

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<u>Alloy</u>	<u>Ni</u>	<u>Co</u>	<u>Cr</u>	<u>Mo</u>	<u>W</u>	<u>Ta</u>	<u>Al</u>	<u>Ti</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>Nb</u>	<u>Zr</u>	<u>Other</u>
IN713C	Bal	---	12.5	4.2	---	---	6.0	0.8	.12	.012	2.0	.10	---
IN738C	Bal	8.5	16.0	1.7	2.6	1.7	3.4	3.4	.17	.01	.90	.10	---
IN939	Bal	19.0	22.5	---	2.0	1.4	1.9	3.7	.15	.01	1.0	.10	---
C101	Bal	9.0	12.6	1.9	4.17	4.17	3.4	4.0	.13	.015	---	.03	.9Hf
MM247	Bal	10.0	8.25	.70	10.0	3.0	5.5	1.0	.15	.015	---	.05	1.5Hf
Rene 80	Bal	9.5	14.0	4.0	4.0	---	3.0	5.0	.17	.015	---	.02	---
Hastelloy x	Bal	1.5	22.0	9.0	.60	---	2.0	---	.15	---	---	---	18.5Fe
													1.0 max Mn
													1.0 max Si
HS-188	22	Bal	22	---	14.0	---	---	---	.10	---	---	---	3.0 max Fe
													.35Si
													1.25 Mn
													.05La
Rene N6	Bal	12.5	4.5	1.25	6.0	7.5	5.8	---	.05	.004	---	---	5.4Re
													.15Hf
CMSX10	Bal	3.0	2.0	.40	5.0	8.0	5.7	.20	---	---	.10	---	6.0Re
													.03Hf

D. Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

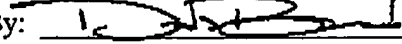
Claims 1 to 6, 9 to 17, and 25 to 31 are rejected as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,024,792 (Kurz). These rejections are respectfully traversed in view of the present amendment. Independent claims 1 and 29 are amended to include the feature from allowable claims 7 and 8 that a filler material is a modified MCrAlY. Kurz fails to teach or suggest the use of any type of MCrAlY alloy as a filler material during a welding or repair process as recited in the instant claims. Further, independent claims 3 and 26 are amended to include the feature from allowable claim 18 that a high power energy source for a welding or repair process is a laser selected from the group consisting of carbon dioxide, Nd:YAG, diode and fiber lasers. Kurz fails to disclose any of these specific types of lasers. For these reasons, the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) should be withdrawn.

In view of Applicant's amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that Examiner's objections and rejections have been overcome. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the application is now in condition for allowance, and such allowance is therefore earnestly requested. Should the Examiner have any questions or wish to further discuss this application, Applicants request that the Examiner contact the Applicants attorneys at the below-listed telephone number. If for some reason Applicants have not requested a sufficient extension and/or have not paid a sufficient fee for this response and/or for the extension necessary to prevent abandonment on this application, please consider this as a request for an extension for the required time period and/or authorization to charge Deposit Account No. 50-2091 for any fee which may be due.

Respectfully submitted,

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